

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. A print cartridge comprising:
an open container having a top opening;
a porous ink-absorbent in said container;
a print head in ink communication with said porous ink-absorbent;
a cover lid adapted to be placed on said container, over said top opening, to close said container at said top opening; and
an ink conduit needle mounted in said cover lid to be positioned spaced above said porous ink-absorbent when said cover lid is placed on said container, so that a print ink can descend freely by the force of gravity from said ink conduit needle onto said porous ink-absorbent in order to accumulate vertically on said porous ink-absorbent.
2. A print cartridge as recited in claim 1, wherein said cover lid forms an air chamber between said ink conduit needle and said porous ink-absorbent when said cover lid is placed on said container.
3. A print cartridge as recited in claim 2, wherein said cover lid has a shroud for said ink conduit needle.
4. A print cartridge as recited in claim 1, wherein said porous ink-absorbent is adjacent said top opening in said container.
5. A print cartridge as recited in claim 4, wherein said print ink that accumulates vertically on said porous ink-absorbent accumulates to a maximum level below said top opening.
6. A print cartridge comprising:
a box-like container having side, end and bottom walls, but no top wall so that there is a top opening;

a porous ink-absorbent fitted in said container to abut said side, end and bottom walls and be adjacent said top opening;

a print head at an opening in said bottom wall and in ink communication with said porous ink-absorbent;

a top cover lid adapted to be placed on said container, over said top opening, to close said container at said top opening; and

an ink conduit needle mounted on said cover lid to be positioned spaced above said porous ink-absorbent when said cover lid is placed on said container, so that a print ink can descend freely by the force of gravity from said ink conduit needle, through said top opening, onto said porous ink-absorbent and from the porous ink-absorbent vertically down to the print head.

7. An ink jet print system comprising:

a print cartridge including:

(a) an open container having a top opening;

(b) a porous ink-absorbent in said container;

(c) a print head in ink communication with said porous ink-absorbent;

(d) a cover lid adapted to be placed on said container, over said top opening, to close said container at said top opening; and

(e) an ink conduit needle mounted on said cover lid to longitudinally extend in a horizontal orientation above said porous ink-absorbent when said cover lid is placed on said container, so that a print ink can descend freely by the force of gravity from said ink conduit needle onto said porous ink-absorbent in order to accumulate vertically on said porous ink-absorbent; and

a movable scanning carriage including:

(a) a resilient septum;

(b) a support for said septum;

(c) a flexible ink delivery tube connected to said septum; and

(d) a stall for receiving said print cartridge in a substantially horizontal direction so that said ink conduit needle is horizontally inserted through in said septum.

8. Apparatus for effecting an ink delivery connection with a print cartridge, wherein the print cartridge includes:

an open container having a top opening;
a porous ink-absorbent in the container;
a print head in ink communication with the porous ink-absorbent;
a cover lid adapted to be placed on the container, over the top opening, to close the container; and

an ink conduit needle mounted on the cover lid to longitudinally extend in a horizontal orientation above the porous ink-absorbent when the cover lid is placed on the container, so that a print ink can descend freely by the force of gravity from the ink conduit needle onto the porous ink-absorbent and from the porous ink-absorbent vertically down to the print head; and
wherein said apparatus comprises:

a resilient septum;
a support for said septum; and
a stall for receiving said print cartridge in a substantially horizontal direction so that said ink conduit needle horizontally pierces said septum.